

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13  
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01  
AID-05 IGA-02 SS-15 L-03 /078 W  
-----190320 097745 /13  
R 181606Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0870

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENNA 1364  
EO 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SNAR, AU  
SUBJ: COUNTRY PAPER ON NARCOTICS

REF: STATE 036693

1. FOLLOWING IS 1977 UPDATE OF COUNTRY PAPER ON NARCOTICS  
AS REQUESTED REFTEL. (VIENNA A-057 OF FEBRUARY 8, 1977  
PROVIDES RELEVANT DETAILS.)

2. BEGIN TEXT: I. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM: AUSTRIA IS A  
NATURAL TRANSIT POINT FOR ILLICIT DRUGS FROM BOTH THE MIDDLE  
AND FAR EAST. THESE DRUGS ARE DESTINED FOR WESTERN  
EUROPE, CANADA, AND THE UNITED STATES. ALL PORTS OF ENTRY  
ARE SUBJECT, HOWEVER, TO FREQUENT TOURIST AND VISITOR  
TRAVEL PEAKS OF MASSIVE PROPORTIONS, AT WHICH TIMES ANY  
PRACTICABLE LEVEL OF CUSTOMS CONTROL WOULD NOT SUFFICE AS  
A COMPLETE DETERRENT. EVIDENCE INDICATES THAT ILLICIT DRUGS  
ARE NEITHER PRODUCED NOR PROCESSED IN AUSTRIA. EVIDENCE IS  
GROWING, HOWEVER, THAT DRUG ABUSE IS BECOMING A MORE SERIOUS  
PROBLEM AMONG AUSTRIANS THEMSELVES, SEEMINGLY SPREADING FROM  
THE FOREIGN VISITORS AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES TO  
WHICH IT WAS, AT FIRST, LARGELY CONFINED.

II. DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS ON PART OF HOST COUNTRY:  
AUSTRIA WISHES TO HAVE ITS COUNTRY OPEN AS MUCH AS  
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POSSIBLE TO FOREIGN VISITORS. INDEED, ITS ECONOMIC  
WELL BEING REQUIRES A SUBSTANTIAL INFLUX OF TOURISTS  
AND BUSINESS VISITORS EACH YEAR.  
THE RECENT DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE SERIOUS  
INTERNAL PROBLEM INVOLVING THE USE OF  
ILLICIT DRUGS, FUNDING REQUIREMENTS, AND THE  
DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN OBTAINING COOPERATION WITH

EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ARE ADDITIONAL COMPLICATING FACTORS IN THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORT TO COUNTER THE TRANSIT PROBLEM. STILL, THE GOVERNMENT IS ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING, EVEN THOUGH THERE IS NO POPULAR DEMAND FOR ACTION. AUSTRIA HAS NOT RATIFIED THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS, ITS AMENDING PROTOCOL, OR THE CONVENTION ON PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES; HOWEVER, THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AGREED IN EARLY 1977 TO SUBMIT THE SINGLE CONVENTION AND ITS AMENDING PROTOCOL TO PARLIAMENT FOR RATIFICATION. DRUG OFFENSES ARE NOT COVERED IN ITS EXTRADITION TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES. WHERE POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, AUSTRIAN OFFICIALS DO COOPERATE INTERNATIONALLY.

III. U.S. PROGRAMS: THERE IS A DEA OFFICE IN VIENNA, LOCATED IN THE EMBASSY. U.S. ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING HAVE INCREASED AUSTRIA'S CAPABILITY TO DEAL WITH ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFICKERS AND USERS. THIS COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND AUSTRIA IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE AND TO RESULT IN EVEN MORE AWARENESS ON THE PART OF AUSTRIAN OFFICIALS OF THE ENFORCEMENT PROBLEMS INVOLVED. BUCHANAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG TRAFFIC, REPORTS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 36693  
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**TAGS:** SNAR, AU  
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**Review Markings:**  
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